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ABSTRACT

In this book, the author candidly confronts errors he made of omission, commission, misplaced emphases, and watering down the depth and scope of his criticisms of the reform arena in his half-century involvement in educational reform. No other major figure in this arena has made public such a searching self-critique. Sharing his thoughts about the future of education, the author discusses his thinking on charter schools, productive learning, motivation, high-stakes testing, the need for teachers to relate differently to each other and to parents, the importance of working through change, and the mistaken idea that reforms can be cloned. Although written before the September 11th World Trade Center tragedy, the last chapter of this book is extraordinarily relevant to the subsequent national importance of societal values and responsible citizenship. It is hoped that this self-scrutiny will be stimulating and invaluable to anyone interested in reform as concept, action, and values. (Contains 61 references.) (RT)

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